

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

"Protection, Service & Accountability"



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James E. Salio
Chief Probation Officer



Community Corrections Partnership (CCP)

May 18, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

Probation Classroom

Jim Salio, Chair

MINUTES

Attendees:

Community Corrections Partnership Title (or designee) – Name

Chief Probation Officer – Jim Salio

The Presiding Judge of the Superior Court – Susan Matherly

A County Supervisor or CAO – Geoff O'Quest

The District Attorney – Dan Dow, Linda Dunn

DA Victim Witness – Not available

Sheriff – Ian Parkinson

The Public Defender – Not available

A Chief of Police – Robert Burton

Department Head of County Employment – Not available

Behavioral Health – Anne Robin

Drug and Alcohol Services – Star Graber

Department Head of Social Services – Not available

Health Agency – Jeff Hamm, Michelle Shoresman

The Head of the County Office of Education – Not available

Probation – Chief Deputy Robert Reyes, Wendy White, Amy Gilman, Virginia Collie

35th State Assembly Representative – Not available

Senator Monning's Representative – Not available

A representative from a community-based organization – Not available

Iain Fenwick, Nami and Beyond Differences

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

There was a motion made by Dan Dow and seconded by Ian Parkinson to approve the minutes from March 16, 2015. All in favor, motion carried.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Programs Update

Geoff O'Quest gave a brief review of the community recidivism reduction grants that the executive committee will be voting on today. There is a total of \$50,000 available which has been split between five recipients. If approved by the executive committee they will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for final approval and distribution of funds.

Star Graber provided abstracts for the three grants applied for by Drug and Alcohol Services: MIOCR (Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction) and should hear something on this one by mid-June, and the two federal grants, SAMSHA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and BJA JMHCP (Bureau of Justice Assistance Justice and Mental Health Collaborative Program) which should be decided in mid-September. She also handed out a handout on the PROM (post release offender meeting) referrals to Drug and Alcohol Services and a breakdown of how many individuals are being referred and to which programs. For FY 14-15 (through 3/31/15), a total of 148 clients were assessed and only 33 were not referred to Drug and Alcohol Services. Of those 33, only 8 were actual failures to show. Robert Reyes feels this report reinforces that PROM has shown great success in connecting the post release offenders with services and activities. Robert also reported there has been some progress made with the merge data set between agencies. There was general consensus that the data should be housed with Probation, so they are working on the logistics and what, if any, protections need to be put in place so we are not violating any HIPAA privacy regulations or criminal justice data access statutes. There is still a lot of internal work required to accomplish the merged data set, so Robert will be working with Probation's IT staff to hopefully accomplish that by this summer.

V. Treasurer's report

Wendy White reported we are actually operating a little below the allocated budget; if the trend continues in all departments there will be a savings at the end of the year that could be transferred back into the overall fund, which is the normal operating procedure. Revenue coming in from the state is arriving as anticipated. The state's May revision came out last week and the growth money for FY 14-15 is not as high as first projected by the state and will be distributed in August. Jim Salio stated the base amount is higher than what we had used to build our budgets so even if the growth money comes in under what was expected, with the base amount being higher it should be a wash or we will come out on the positive.

VI. Quarterly outcomes report

Amy Gilman reviewed the data snapshot for the third quarter. Misdemeanor probationer data has been added to the snapshot. The felony population has been decreasing which is attributed to Proposition 47. The PRCS population is also dropping. The 1170(b) split sentencing is also not growing as expected. Many clients have multiple court cases, so we saw 438 felony cases reduced to misdemeanors which affected 316 people, but more than half of those 316 are still on some level of formal probation grant. The District Attorney and Court are still processing Proposition 47 cases as the law allows for three years for people to make the request. Anne Robin requested the Court research whether they are getting notification from the state hospital system for any 1370 clients that have requested reduction as she is not receiving notification.

We are seeing an increase in the misdemeanor closure levels which is also due to reductions from felonies per Proposition 47. Recidivism rates are about equal to last quarter with PRCS/Mandatory Supervision coming in at 50%, felony at 46% and misdemeanor at 42.8%.

Susan Matherly questioned why there were not more split sentences. Dan Dow responded that split sentencing is affected by Proposition 47 as well. They have seen a 30% reduction in felonies and that same growth in misdemeanors. Those cases that might have been eligible for split sentences are now just misdemeanors. He believes the local culture is still not accustomed and comfortable with split sentences in general because of the current way in which case evaluations are done and historically only viewing a case as either probation eligible or county jail/prison eligible and then determining the total custody term. The court is seeing more serious level felonies so there is a thought that the split sentence option is more difficult to assess on those higher level felonies. Linda asked about PRCS transfer-ins and that number is included in the regular PRCS count. Probation will have to separate out the specific number from the data set.

Dan Dow reported on the new misdemeanor diversion program. They referred 31 misdemeanors in April and 26 in the first two weeks of May so they are on track for what they predicted to be around 75 referrals a month for misdemeanor diversion. The provider has been pleased with the number of referrals. At a future meeting he could bring back more specific data on what offenses are involved and look at outcomes. He feels it is promising that the DA has been able to refer that many cases so far, to the program.

Ian Parkinson reported the jail population is hovering around 500 in-custody which is down about 100 people since passage of Proposition 47. He is still not sure if those clients originally cited out will be entering into custody later on when they have to appear in Court and are possibly given jail time. Susan also reported an increase in the number of bench warrants because the court is citing out so many people and they are failing to appear. Over 50% of their misdemeanor cases are out to warrant. Ian reported law enforcement is governed by law on the misdemeanor cite outs; technically officers are not allowed to bring defendants to jail until they meet one of the non-citable criteria. For those defendants with multiple FTAs, the jail might be able to house them. Criteria should be drawn up for keeping them in custody to ensure their court appearance. The jail does honor all no cite outs. He reported their main housing issues are with the mentally ill and the more violent offenders and finding sufficient space to segregate those in protective custody. Dan Dow reported it's possible there are more misdemeanor drug offenses that are affecting the numbers, due to being reduced from felonies per Proposition 47.

Anne Robin reported that May is mental health month and provided various items and publications to the group to provide to the public.

VII. Topics

None presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Collie
Secretary